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Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 02038 240841Z

15
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-11 SAM-01 CU-02 /071 W
---------- 103161
R 240805Z FEB 76
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9251
INFO USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC
FBIS OKINAWA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT CH
SUBJECT: ATTACKS BROADEN IN CURRENT IDEOLIGICAL STRUGGLE

1. AS THE LEADERSHIPDEBATE CONTINUES IN CHINA, THE PEOPLE'S DAILY HAS AIRED SEVERAL NEW CHARGES AGAINST THE "CAPITALIST ROADERS" PRESUMABLY HEADED BY VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING IN AN ARTICLE IN THE FEBRUARY 19 ISSUE, THESE RIGHTISTS ARE ACCUSED OF SIDETRACKING LAST FALLS'S CAMPAIGN TO CRITICIZE WATER MARGIN AND OPPOSING THE THREE-WAY LEADERSHIP COMBINATION OF OLD, MIDDLE-AGED, AND YOUNG CADRES. ALTHOUGH THE LATTER CHARGE APPEARED EARLIER, THEY ARE NOW SPECIFICALLY SAID TO HAVE CHARGED THAT UOUNG CADRES LACKED EXPERIENCE AND TO HAVE TRIED TO DEMOTE THEM IN AN ATTEMPT TO GET RID OF THE NEW BLOOD THAT ENTERED THE LEADERSHIP AS A RESULT OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION.

2. IN ANOTHER ARTICLE THE SAME DAY THESE LEADERS ARE
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ACCUSED OF HAVING SIDED WITH LIU SHAO-CHI IN OPPOSING CHAIRMAN

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MAO'S REVILUTIONARY LINE EVER SINCE 1956. DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION THEY ARE SAID TO HAVE ADMITTED THEIR MISTAKES UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE MASSES AND TO HAVE PROMISED THAT THEY WOULD NEVER ATTEMPT TO "REVERSE VERDICTS," BUT THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THEY RECANTED AS SOON AS THE PRESSURE WAS OFF.

3. ATTACKS SUCH AS THESE MAKE IT INCREASINGLY CLEAR THAT IN AT LEAST ONE OF ITS ASPECTS, THE CURRENT DEBATE IS A POWER STRUGGLE BETWEEN CULTURAL REVOLUTION VICTORS AND THEIR REHABILITATED VICTIMS. THE DEBATE MAY ALSO REFLECT THE UNHAPPINESS OF SOME YOUNG CADRES WHO TASTED POWER DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, BUT WERE EFFECTIVELY SHOVED ASIDE BY THE ESTABLISHMENT SHORTLY THEREAFTER. THE ARTICLES PROVIDED FUTHER EVIDANCE THAT THE SCARS OF THOSE DAYS STILL RUN DEEP, AND THAT THE ENMITY ENGENDERED IN THE 1960'S WILL COMPLICATE THE SUCCESSION NOT ONLY TO CHOU, BUT EVENTUALLY TO MAO AS WELL.
CROSS

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TAGS: PINT, CH, (MAO TSE-TUNG), (TENG HSIAO-PING), (LIU SHAO-CHI)
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Type: TE
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